

SOUTH CAROLINA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

STANDING HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE

DOCKET NOS. 2015-283-C

ORDER NO. 2015-53-H

AUGUST 19, 2015

Standing Hearing Officer: David Butler

DOCKET DESCRIPTION:

**Thomas Peterman, Law Offices of Thomas B. Peterman, P.A.,
Complainant/Petitioner v. EarthLink Business, LLC, Defendant/Respondent**

MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:

Requests of EarthLink Business, LLC to hold in abeyance the deadlines set forth in the Revised Scheduling Notice issued August 6, 2015, and for a thirty (30) day extension of time to file an answer in the proceeding

STANDING HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:

Counsel for EarthLink Business, LLC states that she has spoken to the Complainant/Petitioner in this matter, and the parties are in the process of negotiating a resolution. Accordingly, Counsel requests that all deadlines in the August 6, 2015 Revised Scheduling Notice be held in abeyance, and that her client be given a thirty (30) day extension of time to file an answer in the proceeding while resolution talks continue. Counsel further notes that, should these requests be granted, EarthLink Business agrees to report back to the Commission no later than September 15, 2015, with an update on the progress of settlement negotiations.

The requests are reasonable, since settlement negotiations are underway. Accordingly, both requests are granted. The deadlines in the August 6, 2015 Revised Scheduling Notice, including the pre-filing deadlines and the hearing date, are held in abeyance until further notice. A thirty (30) day extension to file an answer is granted. As per its Agreement, EarthLink Business shall report back to the Commission no later than September 15, 2015, with an update on the progress of settlement negotiations.